TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 24, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 19 totaled 349,822, down 0.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1989, but 1.0 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 3.7 percent in the West but down 3.4 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 3,270 cars (2.6 percent). Loadings of metalic ores were down 2,099 cars (9.1 percent) and loadings of primary forest products declined 925 cars (8.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 20 weeks of 1990 totaled 6,791,950, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 116,100 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 19, up 0.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 20 weeks of 1990 was 2,332,352 trailers and/or containers, 3.3 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 19 totaled 20.3 billion, up 1.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 20 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 394.8 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,798	27,446	-2.4 %	25,518	5.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,888	1,606	17.6	1,573	20.0
Metallic Ores	21,062	23,161	-9.1	19,717	6.8
Coal	130,012	126,742	2.6	130,950	-.7
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,213	16,471	4.5	17,644	-2.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,306	11,027	-6.5	10,699	-3.7
Grain Mill Products	9,783	10,052	-2.7	9,625	1.6
Food & Kindred Products	8,667	8,825	-1.8	8,499	2.0
Primary Forest Products	9,590	10,515	-8.8	9,571	.2
Lumber & Wood Products	6,748	7,185	-6.1	6,500	3.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,953	10,709	2.3	9,890	10.7
Chemicals	27,662	27,393	1.0	28,640	-3.4
Petroleum Products	5,154	5,158	-.1	5,213	-1.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,763	10,751	.1	10,249	5.0
Coke	6,016	5,504	9.3	5,980	.6
Metals & Products	10,141	10,388	-2.4	9,639	5.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,944	21,093	-.7	20,894	.2
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,059	9,448	-4.1	9,315	-2.7
All Other Carloads	7,063	7,301	-3.3	6,179	14.3
Total	**349,822**	**350,775**	**-.3 %**	**346,295**	**1.0 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 20 WEEKS ENDING MAY 19, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**349,822**	**350,775**	**-.3 %**	**6,791,950**	**6,777,705**	**.2 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	65,755	66,976	-1.8	1,320,870	1,318,982	.1
Containers	50,345	48,279	4.3	1,011,482	939,279	7.7
Total	**116,100**	**115,255**	**.7**	**2,332,352**	**2,258,261**	**3.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.3**	**20.0**	**1.5 %**	**394.8**	**389.7**	**1.3 %**

NOTE: Carloadings are estimated for: Week 20, 1990 - DMIR.